

Exhibit 1
Deposition of Dawn Meyer

Page 1		Page 3
1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
2	DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA	
3		
4	-----	
5	THE SATANIC TEMPLE, Case No. 19-CV-01122	
	(WMW/LIB)	
6	Plaintiff,	
7	v.	
8	CITY OF BELLE PLAINE,	
9	Defendant.	
10	-----	
11		
12	Deposition of	
13	CITY OF BELLE PLAINE, MINNESOTA	
14	through	
15	DAWN MEYER	
16	Monday, February 8, 2021	
17	9:57 a.m.	
18		
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20		
21		
22		
23		
24	KATHRYN M. MOHAWK, RPR	
	ESQUIRE DEPOSITION SOLUTIONS	
25		
26		
Page 2		Page 4
1	Deposition of DAWN MEYER, taken pursuant to	
2	Notice and agreement of counsel, and taken before	
3	Kathryn M. Mohawk, Notary Public in and for the County	
4	of Anoka, State of Minnesota, via videoconference.	
5		
6	A P P E A R A N C E S	
7		
8	MATTHEW A. KEZHAYA, ESQUIRE, of the law	
9	firm of KEZHAYA LAW PLC, 1202 Northeast McClain Road,	
10	Bentonville, Arkansas 72712, appeared for and on behalf	
11	of the Plaintiff via videoconference.	
12		
13	MONTE A. MILLS, ESQUIRE, of the law firm of	
14	GREENE ESPEL, PLLP, 222 South Ninth Street, Suite 2200,	
15	Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402, appeared for and on	
16	behalf of the Defendant via videoconference.	
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1	PROCEEDINGS	
2	THE REPORTER: All parties stipulate and	
3	agree that the witness was identified as DAWN	
4	MEYER, and the witness's testimony will be treated	
5	as if the witness is under oath. This deposition	
6	will be used for all purposes like other	
7	depositions.	
8	Counsel, can you please identify	
9	yourselfs for the record; state who you represent;	
10	name any other parties in attendance with you in	
11	your location; and state on the record that you	
12	agree to the stipulation, please.	
13	MR. KEZHAYA: This is Matt representing	
14	the plaintiffs, The Satanic Temple. There's a	
15	little bit of feedback. I agree to the	
16	stipulation. And no one else is in the room with	
17	me.	
18	MR. MILLS: Good morning. Monte Mills for	
19	the City of Belle Plaine, and no one else is here	
20	with me.	
21	THE REPORTER: And you agree to the	
22	stipulation?	
23	MR. MILLS: Sure. Never saw it before	
24	this morning, but it's a deposition. Let's	
25	proceed.	

<p>1</p> <p>2 DAWN MEYER,</p> <p>3 called as a witness, after having been duly sworn,</p> <p>4 was examined and testified as follows:</p> <p>5 EXAMINATION</p> <p>6 BY MR. KEZHAYA:</p> <p>7 Q. Please state your name for the record.</p> <p>8 A. Dawn Meyer.</p> <p>9 Q. And, Dawn, what is your role with the City?</p> <p>10 A. Administrator.</p> <p>11 Q. And what does an administrator do for the City?</p> <p>12 A. In general terms, they manage the office and follow</p> <p>13 policy as set by city council.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. Do you serve as the chief executive for the</p> <p>15 City?</p> <p>16 A. City government doesn't set chief executives, but I</p> <p>17 -- There is no other position staff-wise above my</p> <p>18 position.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. Do you report directly to the council?</p> <p>20 A. I do.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. Are they -- For all intents and purposes,</p> <p>22 are they your bosses?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. Is yours an elected position?</p> <p>25 A. No.</p>	<p>Page 5</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. Were there any internal guidelines created</p> <p>2 to determine whether an application would meet the</p> <p>3 resolutions or not?</p> <p>4 A. The resolution along with the permit which was</p> <p>5 approved at the time of enactment was the guiding.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. Were there any meetings to determine whether</p> <p>7 applications would be accepted or not?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Who made the decision on whether an application</p> <p>10 would be approved or denied?</p> <p>11 A. The city administrator.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. At the time, was that you?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. That was Mike Votca?</p> <p>15 A. Michael Votca.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. Did he consult with anyone, or was it</p> <p>17 entirely up to his discretion?</p> <p>18 A. As per the policy, it was the administrator's</p> <p>19 discretion.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay. At some point, y'all received an application</p> <p>21 from TST; is that correct?</p> <p>22 A. I believe the permit was from -- It did not state</p> <p>23 TST. It was --</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. But you -- Sorry. Go ahead.</p> <p>25 A. -- Reason Alliance.</p>
<p>1 Q. Okay. Do you have any relationship with Mayor</p> <p>2 Meyer?</p> <p>3 MR. MILLS: Objection: This is beyond the</p> <p>4 scope. We're here for a 30(b)(6) deposition of the</p> <p>5 City. There are five topics. It's time to start</p> <p>6 addressing the five topics.</p> <p>7 MR. KEZHAYA: We're going to get there</p> <p>8 shortly. Please answer the question.</p> <p>9 MR. MILLS: Nope. Moving on to the five</p> <p>10 topics, please.</p> <p>11 MR. KEZHAYA: I'm going to certify this as</p> <p>12 an issue for the Court for sanctions.</p> <p>13 Q. Let's move on to the five topics then. At some</p> <p>14 point, the City enacted the Enacting Resolution; is</p> <p>15 that correct?</p> <p>16 A. Correct.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. What happened between then and the time that</p> <p>18 people started introducing the applications?</p> <p>19 A. Can you be more specific?</p> <p>20 Q. Yeah. How did you go about implementing it as a</p> <p>21 City?</p> <p>22 A. The resolution enacting the limited forum area was</p> <p>23 approved. The City created the space in the park</p> <p>24 as directed and created a -- or not created -- they</p> <p>25 started accepting permits.</p>	<p>Page 6</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. But you knew it was coming from The Satanic</p> <p>2 Temple, didn't you?</p> <p>3 A. I believe they had their name on that permit as</p> <p>4 well.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. I'm going to turn your attention to Exhibit</p> <p>6 3, Deposition Exhibit 3.</p> <p>7 MR. KEZHAYA: Katie, do I show it on my</p> <p>8 screen; or do you show it on yours?</p> <p>9 THE REPORTER: You, please.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. Can you all see my PDF reader here?</p> <p>11 A. I do not see it.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. How about now?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. So this is Exhibit 3. The City produced</p> <p>15 this as City Bates stamps 12, 13, 14, and looks</p> <p>16 like 15.</p> <p>17 MR. MILLS: Excuse me. But when you're</p> <p>18 speaking in terms of deposition exhibits, I don't</p> <p>19 think this is Deposition Exhibit 3.</p> <p>20 MR. KEZHAYA: I promise you that this is</p> <p>21 Deposition Exhibit 3. I've just designated it as</p> <p>22 such.</p> <p>23 MR. MILLS: Oh, for this deposition or --</p> <p>24 MR. KEZHAYA: Correct.</p> <p>25 MR. MILLS: -- for the prior depositions?</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 MR. KEZHAYA: For this deposition. 2 MR. MILLS: I misunderstood. I thought 3 you were using the exhibit numbers from the 4 previous depositions in this case. That's often 5 what people do. I apologize for the confusion. So 6 for this deposition this is a -- 7 MR. KEZHAYA: This is Deposition Exhibit 8 3. 9 Q. Dawn, please answer the question. 10 A. I didn't get a question. I apologize. 11 Q. The question is, do you recognize this as TST's 12 application? 13 A. I recognize this application listing the Reason 14 Alliance with a c/o The Satanic Temple, yes. 15 Q. Sorry. I didn't catch that last part of the 16 question. You said with a c/o of The Satanic 17 Temple? 18 A. It says c/o or care of on the -- 19 Q. Oh, I see. 20 A. -- The Satanic Temple, correct. 21 Q. Okay. The City expected an application from The 22 Satanic Temple, didn't they? 23 A. No. 24 Q. No? I'm going to turn your attention to Deposition 25 Exhibit 1. This is an email dated February 13th</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. So after this application was submitted, at 2 some point Mike approved it; is that right? 3 A. Correct. 4 Q. Do you know the time difference between the 5 application and the approval? 6 A. I would need to refer to the file. 7 Q. Okay. I'm going to turn your attention to the 8 City's Exhibit -- or sorry -- Deposition Exhibit 9 5. This is the permit in question; is that right? 10 A. Correct. 11 Q. So March 29 the permit was granted. Turning back 12 to 3, February 23 it was sent. Do you know when 13 you guys received it, the application? 14 A. There is no received stamp. 15 Q. Okay. So approximately one month goes by between 16 the application being sent and the application 17 being approved. What happened during that time 18 frame? 19 A. The City was preparing an area for the limited 20 public forum. 21 Q. Okay. What did that entail? 22 A. It entailed marking out an area, lining it with 23 pavers, placing a sign as required. 24 Q. Okay. You mentioned something about pavers. Were 25 there spots designated for these monuments?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 from Michael Votca to Dan Ruud. Do you recognize 2 this email? Dawn, do you recognize this email? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Okay. I'm going to turn your attention to -- Let's 5 see. Well, I'll just read the whole thing into the 6 record. 7 Since we don't have an official policy yet, we 8 have no official requests. I received a letter 9 from the Vets Club saying that they want to erect a 10 display. The FFRF indicated in their letter that 11 they wanted to put up a display. I also received a 12 short message from someone stating that they were 13 from a satanic temple. When I returned the call, 14 no one answered; and they have not called back. I 15 have an email message from a citizen asking to see 16 the policy once it's approved so that they might 17 place a display. 18 What was the nature of this message from The 19 Satanic Temple? 20 A. I have no knowledge of that information. 21 Q. You have no knowledge of it? 22 A. No record. 23 Q. Okay. February 13th was before the enacting policy 24 was created; is that right? 25 A. Correct.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 A. There was an area in the park designated. It was 2 marked off by pavers. 3 Q. Maybe I'm not understanding what you're saying 4 then. What is a paver? 5 A. A small brick-like product. 6 Q. Okay. So how were these things marked off? Was it 7 the area as a whole, or were there individual plots 8 that got marked off? 9 A. An area as a whole. 10 Q. Okay. Was Mike personally the one that set those 11 down? 12 A. No. 13 Q. Okay. So was there anything else that happened in 14 this one-month period? 15 A. Specifically to create -- 16 Q. Specifically with respect to evaluating this 17 application or implementing the policy. 18 A. They would have been measuring the area. They used 19 aerials to determine the specifics. And they had 20 to dig into the ground to place them as well as 21 ordering a sign. 22 Q. Who is they? 23 A. Public works and the administrator worked together. 24 Q. Okay. And public works was headed up by who? 25 A. Alan Fahey is the public works superintendent.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. Did the city council have any involvement on 2 the approval of this application? 3 A. No. 4 Q. Did they have any involvement on whether it should 5 be approved? 6 A. No. 7 Q. Did any city council members object to TST's 8 application? 9 A. No. 10 Q. Okay. What all meetings took place that surrounded 11 TST's application? 12 A. None. 13 Q. There were no meetings whatsoever about TST's 14 application? 15 A. No. 16 Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the city council 17 meetings in 2017? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. There was a June meeting where a priest came in and 20 objected to TST's application, wasn't there? 21 MR. MILLS: Objection: This is beyond the 22 scope of the deposition. There are five topics 23 listed. The original -- Well, I'll just stop there 24 for now. This is beyond the scope. 25 MR. KEZHAYA: This is on point 3. Answer</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 THE REPORTER: Most of it. When the 2 background started coming in, I -- 3 MR. MILLS: Yeah. Mr. Kezhaya -- Let the 4 record reflect that Mr. Kezhaya is interfering with 5 my objections. 6 (Mr. Kezhaya on the telephone.) 7 (Off the record.) 8 THE REPORTER: I don't know what just 9 happened there, but it wasn't on the record. And 10 what you want on the record, guys, you have to 11 speak one at a time because -- Well, you get it. 12 MR. KEZHAYA: That's fine. 13 MR. MILLS: Yeah. I definitely do get it, 14 Katie. 15 MR. KEZHAYA: I'm going to move to the 16 next topic. 17 BY MR. KEZHAYA: 18 Q. So there was a meeting in July that the City hosted 19 about TST's monument; isn't that the case? 20 MR. MILLS: Objection. This is beyond the 21 scope of the deposition -- 22 MR. KEZHAYA: Please answer the question. 23 A. Can you be more specific, please. 24 Q. So I'm going to turn your attention to Deposition 25 Exhibit 6. On June 29th, TST notified it looks</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 the question, please. 2 MR. MILLS: I'm going to object. This is 3 beyond the scope. Your original -- 4 MR. KEZHAYA: This is falling very clearly 5 under the meetings and participants -- 6 MR. MILLS: I'm not done. I'm not done. 7 Counsel, I'm not -- 8 MR. KEZHAYA: I don't care if you're done, 9 Monte. 10 MR. MILLS: The original deposition -- 11 MR. KEZHAYA: Are we going to call the 12 judge right now? 13 MR. MILLS: The original deposition notice 14 included a statement about the City's 15 communications with Father Brian Lynch. It also 16 included various other topics about protests, about 17 TST's display, and all these other topics. The 18 Court's order said that each of those plaintiff's 19 noticed Rule 30 deposition topics are not relevant 20 to any claims or defenses in this case, and the 21 plaintiff shall not inquire into such topics -- 22 (Background noise.) 23 -- during the Rule 30(b)(6) -- 24 I just want to know whether the court reporter 25 was able to get my objection on the record.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 like your predecessor that the monument was ready 2 to be installed. Were you aware of this? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Okay. And you actually responded to Malcolm saying 5 that it couldn't be arranged for until July 6; is 6 that right? 7 A. Correct. 8 Q. What was your -- What was your role at this time? 9 A. I was serving as an acting administrator in the 10 absence of the administrator. 11 Q. Okay. And so you sent an email to Chris Meyer 12 shortly after responding to Malcolm; is that right? 13 This would be the email in question. 14 (Referencing Exhibit No. 7.) 15 A. Yep. I'm just refreshing my memory. Yes. 16 Q. Okay. And Mayor Meyer responded the next morning 17 asking you to set up a workshop session with the 18 council and the veterans for July 10th, right? 19 A. Correct. 20 Q. Okay. Did you, in fact, set up that workshop 21 session? 22 A. There was no council workshop scheduled on July 23 10th. 24 Q. Okay. So you responded that you'll work on getting 25 it set up and posted. We see this on Exhibit 7,</p>

	Page 17		Page 19
1	right?	1	this deposition specifically approved by the Court
2	MR. MILLS: Objection: This is beyond the	2	was the City's communications with TST between
3	scope.	3	January 1, 2017, and July 1, 2017. If you're
4	MR. KEZHAYA: This is meetings, Monte.	4	asking for something regarding the City's
5	I've heard your objection. Please answer the	5	communications after July 1, 2017, it's beyond the
6	question.	6	scope of what the Court ordered this deposition
7	MR. MILLS: This is beyond -- Meetings	7	would be about.
8	constituting the internal decision making about	8	MR. KEZHAYA: All right. Well, Dawn, I
9	plaintiff's request.	9	think that's all the time we have for you today.
10	MR. KEZHAYA: Yes. This would fall very	10	Thank you so much for your time. And we'll be
11	cleanly under that. Dawn, please answer the	11	talking to you soon.
12	question.	12	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
13	MR. MILLS: I'll allow this one to proceed	13	MR. MILLS: We'll read and sign, please,
14	with that clarification.	14	Katie.
15	A. I'm sorry. Can you repeat the question?	15	THE REPORTER: Sure. Copy of the
16	Q. Did you, in fact, set up a workshop session?	16	transcript? What type of copy? Do you want an
17	A. We did not have a public meeting or the workshop	17	electronic PDF or something hard copy?
18	session.	18	MR. MILLS: Yes. An electronic PDF would
19	Q. Okay. What is a workshop session?	19	be fine, Katie. Thank you.
20	A. It's a public meeting with the council as a whole	20	THE REPORTER: Sure. And, Mr. Kezhaya, an
21	to review City business.	21	original copy, hard copy original?
22	Q. Okay. You said you didn't have a public meeting.	22	MR. KEZHAYA: Just a PDF for me, please.
23	Was there a private meeting?	23	THE REPORTER: Just a PDF. No hard copy
24	A. No.	24	original?
25	Q. Okay. Was any number of city council members	25	MR. KEZHAYA: Please.
	Page 18		Page 20
1	meeting on July 10th?	1	THE REPORTER: Very good. Thank you.
2	A. Not to my knowledge.	2	(The deposition was concluded at 10:20
3	Q. Okay. After this -- Well, what was the nature of	3	3 a.m.)
4	telling Malcolm that this installation process	4	
5	would have to wait until July 6th?	5	
6	A. If you refer to the email --	6	
7	Q. Uh-huh.	7	
8	A. -- the installation was coordinated through our	8	
9	public work superintendent who manages all City	9	
10	property, and he was out of the office until that	10	
11	date.	11	
12	Q. Okay. Was that the only reason?	12	
13	A. Yes.	13	
14	Q. Okay. Between, looks like, June 30 and about July	14	
15	13, Mr. Fahey was coordinating with Malcolm on	15	
16	installing the monument; is that right?	16	
17	A. Al Fahey was out of the office when I responded to	17	
18	that.	18	
19	Q. Uh-huh.	19	
20	A. So he would have been coordinating when he	20	
21	returned.	21	
22	Q. Correct. So between -- call it July 6 and July 13,	22	
23	he was coordinating with Malcolm to find a date to	23	
24	install the monument. Right?	24	
25	MR. MILLS: So I'll object. The scope of	25	

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 2 STATE OF MINNESOTA) 3 COUNTY OF ANOKA) 4 5 I, Kathryn M. Mohawk, the undersigned, a duly 6 commissioned and qualified notary public within and for 7 the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that 8 before the giving of her deposition, DAWN MEYER was by 9 me first duly sworn upon her oath to depose the whole 10 truth and nothing but the truth; that the foregoing is 11 a true and correct copy of my original stenotype notes 12 taken at said deposition; that I am neither a relative 13 of nor attorney for any of the parties to the cause and 14 have no interest whatsoever in the result of the same; 15 that the cost of the original has been charged to the 16 party who noticed the deposition, and that all parties 17 who ordered copies have been charged at the same rate 18 for such copies.</p> <p>19 WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL this 11th day of 20 February, 2021.</p> <p>21  22 23 KATHRYN M. MOHAWK 24 25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 Reference No.: 6618740 2 3 Case: SATANIC TEMPLE vs BELLE PLAINE 4 5 DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY 6 7 I declare under penalty of perjury that 8 I have read the entire transcript of my Depo- sition taken in the captioned matter or the 9 same has been read to me, and the same is 10 true and accurate, save and except for 11 changes and/or corrections, if any, as indi- 12 cated by me on the DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET 13 hereof, with the understanding that I offer 14 these changes as if still under oath. 15 16 17 Dawn Meyer 18 19 NOTARIZATION OF CHANGES 20 (If Required) 21 Subscribed and sworn to on the _____ day of 22 23 _____, 20____ before me, 24 (Notary Sign) _____ 25 (Print Name) Notary Public, in and for the State of _____</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 DEPOSITION OF DAWN MEYER, 2/8/21 2 REPORTED BY KATHRYN M. MOHAWK, RPR</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 Reference No.: 6618740 2 Case: SATANIC TEMPLE vs BELLE PLAINE 3 4 Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____ 5 Reason for change: _____ 6 Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____ 7 8 Reason for change: _____ 9 Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____ 10 11 Reason for change: _____ 12 Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____ 13 14 Reason for change: _____ 15 Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____ 16 17 Reason for change: _____ 18 Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____ 19 20 Reason for change: _____ 21 Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____ 22 23 Reason for change: _____ 24 25 SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ Dawn Meyer</p>

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1 Reference No.: 6618740
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SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

25 Dawn Meyer